

Docket No.: 392.1702/JDH

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to improve the form of the claims as originally-filed.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: October 11, 2000

By: $\int_{\overline{I}}$

James D. Halsey, Jr. Registration No. 22,729

700 Eleventh Street, N.W. Suite 500 Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 434-1500

4